



TASMANIAN THOROUGHBRED
RACING COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE – WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2007

The Tasmanian Thoroughbred Racing Council (TTRC) today applauded the Tasmanian Government in responding to the TTRC's call for vaccination and officially requesting vaccines on behalf of the Tasmanian Racing Industry.

The Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Mr David Llewellyn today formally requested an allocation of vaccines from Federal Agriculture Minister Mr Peter McGauran to inoculate 7,000 individual horses in Tasmania.

TTRC CEO Rohan Mitchell said "Today's announcement now enables the Tasmanian thoroughbred racing industry to actively plan and implement a vaccination strategy and thus protect the future of the industry".

"The Tasmanian Government has recognised the importance of the industry, its participants and the need for vaccination, they now need to ensure that this process is expedited and implemented as a matter of urgency".

"The Tasmanian Summer Racing Carnival and yearling sales are only around the corner and we need to ensure the vaccination process is completed in the short term".

"We will be meeting with Mr Llewellyn and DPIW representatives in the morning and will be seeking timeframes and requesting the immediate development of a vaccination strategy".

Mr Mitchell also stressed the need for all participants and public to remain vigilant about the threat of Equine Influenza (EI) to Tasmania and the need to adhere to the stringent biosecurity protocols.

"We cannot afford to become complacent, there is still a very real threat of EI spreading, biosecurity measures will remain in place until such time that the threat is over".

"We urge the Tasmanian Government to ensure that the horse movement ban into Tasmania remains in place until such time that a vaccination plan and strategy is implemented."